

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A wireless mobile phone comprising:
a plurality of components coupled to each other to facilitate wireless telephony
5 communication by a user;
an input mechanism to facilitate input of a finger print of the user; and
operating logic to receive input from the input mechanism and to selectively
operate the components depending on whether the user is successfully
authenticated via an inputted finger print.
- 10 2. The wireless mobile phone of claim 1, wherein said input mechanism
comprises a light source to emit light, and an array of light sensors to sense the
emitted light reflecting off a user's finger.
3. The wireless mobile phone of claim 2, wherein the wireless mobile phone
further comprises processing logic associated with the input mechanism to process
15 the reflected light sensed into an input finger print.
4. The wireless mobile phone of claim 3, wherein the operating logic further
comprises logic to compare the input finger print against a reference finger print.
5. The wireless mobile phone of claim 1, wherein the wireless mobile phone
further comprises a reader to facilitate provision of a reference finger print via an
20 identity card.
6. The wireless mobile phone of claim 5, wherein the reference finger print is
stored on said identity card in a manner to be read by a reader selected from the
reader group consisting of an electronic reader, an optical reader, and a magnetic
reader, and the reader is a corresponding selected one of the electronic reader, the
25 optical reader and the magnetic reader.

7. The wireless mobile phone of claim 6, wherein said input mechanism comprises one or more capacitors, and one or more sensors coupled to the one or more capacitors to sense electrical interaction with the capacitors by a user's finger, and to output signals indicating of the user's finger print.
- 5 8. The wireless mobile phone of claim 7, further comprising processing logic associated with the input mechanism to process the reflected light sensed into an input finger print.
9. In a wireless mobile phone, a method of operation comprising:
receiving finger print input from a user;
10 authenticating the user using the provided finger print input; and
operating a plurality of components of the wireless mobile phone to facilitate wireless telephony communication by the user, depending on whether the user was successfully authenticated via the received finger print input of the user.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein said receiving of finger print input from the
15 user comprises emitting light using a light source, sensing the emitted light reflecting off the user's finger using a plurality of sensors, and processing the reflected light sensed into a finger print input.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the method further comprises comparing the inputted finger print against a reference finger print.
- 20 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises retrieving the reference finger print from an identity card.
13. The method of claim 9, wherein said receiving of finger print input from the user comprises sensing electrical interactions with one or more capacitors by the user's finger using a plurality of sensors, and processing the sensed interactions into
25 an inputted finger print.

14. A wireless mobile phone comprising:

a plurality of components coupled to each other to facilitate wireless telephony communication by a user, with the components being equipped to operate in at least a selected one of a first mode and a second mode; and

5 operating logic to operate the components in said first mode without authentication of the user, and to operate the components in said second mode if the user is successfully authenticated.

15. The wireless mobile phone of claim 14, wherein the operating logic enables the components to provide first one or more functions while operating the

10 components in said first mode, and further enables the components to provide second additional one or more functions, while operating the components in said second mode.

16. In a wireless mobile phone, a method of operation comprising:

operating a plurality of components coupled to each other to facilitate wireless

15 telephony communication by a user, in a first mode, prior to authenticating the user; receiving input for authenticating the user; and

operating the components in a second mode if the user is successfully authenticated.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said operating of the plurality of components

20 in said first mode comprises enabling the components to provide first one or more functions, and said operating of the plurality of components in said second mode comprises enabling the components to further provide second one or more functions.